LABORATORY TEST FACT SHEET

TEST: SYPHILIS SEROLOGY

ORDER CODES: 5035, 5040, 5065

TEST DESCRIPTION

Rapid Plasma Reagin (RPR), qualitative: 5035
The SLO Public Health Laboratory performs a qualitative nontreponemal flocculation test for the detection of reagin antibodies in human serum and plasma as a screening test for syphilis. Reactive test samples will automatically reflex to quantitative RPR and treponemal confirmatory testing.

RPR, quantitative: 5040
The RPR titer aids in the interpretation of the syphilis test. Titers may be monitored to assess therapeutic response as well as re-infection.

Treponemal Passive Particle Agglutination Test (TP-PA): 5065
The TP-PA test is ordered automatically with a positive RPR qualitative test. It detects anti-treponemal antibodies and is used in combination with a non-treponemal test, such as the RPR, as a diagnostic tool.

Interpretation
To determine if an active syphilis infection is occurring, a patient's syphilis serology status requires consideration of the RPR, the RPR titer, and the TP-PA results. Below is a general guide to interpretation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Signs &amp; Symptoms</th>
<th>RPR</th>
<th>RPR titer</th>
<th>TPPA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Syphilis infection</td>
<td>Primary or secondary syphilis signs (chancre or rash)</td>
<td>Reactive</td>
<td>1:2 to ≥1:256</td>
<td>Reactive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Syphilis infection</td>
<td>Tertiary syphilis (cardiovascular or neurologic symptoms)</td>
<td>Non-reactive or reactive</td>
<td>None or present</td>
<td>Reactive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Past, treated syphilis</td>
<td>No signs or symptoms</td>
<td>Reactive or non-reactive</td>
<td>1:1 or 1:2, occasionally higher</td>
<td>Reactive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biologic false positive</td>
<td>Autoimmune disease, pregnancy, other condition</td>
<td>Reactive</td>
<td>1:1 or 1:2</td>
<td>Non-reactive</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SPECIMENS ACCEPTED FOR TESTING

Serum or EDTA plasma samples removed from the red cells, and free of hemolysis, bacterial contamination, and lipemia. Specimens may be stored up to 5 days at refrigerated temperature (2–8 °C) before processing. If the RPR is reactive, a quantitative RPR titer and TP-PA will automatically be performed.

CPT Codes
- RPR: 86592
- RPR titer: 86593
- TPPA: 86780